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TO RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 5745
RUEHRN/USMISSION UN ROME PRIORITY 0585
RUEHFR/USMISSION UNESCO PARIS PRIORITY 0539
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 6733
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY 4804
INFO RUEHBW/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY 2080
RUEHPS/AMEMBASSY PRISTINA PRIORITY 5591
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 STATE 039345

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/16/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [ECON](#) [UN](#) [KV](#)

SUBJECT: SUPPORTING KOSOVO IN INTERNATIONAL BODIES

Classified By: IO A/S Esther Brimmer for reason 1.4(b).

11. (C) Summary. This is an action request, see paragraph 2. The Department wishes to highlight our continuing interest in supporting participation by the Republic of Kosovo in international institutions. Kosovo, which has just completed its first year of independence, has made integration in international institutions a high priority and we support this effort. At the same time, states opposed to Kosovo's statehood may seek opportunities to block or delay its participation in international bodies. Posts should counter these efforts and alert Department. End Summary.

OBJECTIVES

12. (C) Action request. Department requests that delegations and missions pursue the following objectives:

-- Discourage any efforts to change rules of procedure or membership requirements that could result in blocking or delaying Kosovo's participation in international bodies based at your mission.

-- Alert the Department to such effects on a case-by-case basis and seek guidance to coordinate the USG response.

13. (C) Delegations from France, Germany, the UK, Italy, Turkey, Croatia and Albania can be counted on to support efforts to advance Kosovo's integration into international bodies. Opposition to Kosovo's engagement in world bodies might emerge from Serbia, Russia, Cuba, Cyprus, Spain, and Venezuela.

BACKGROUND

14. (SBU) It is a USG policy priority to help Kosovo fully establish its status as a state, including joining multilateral organizations, to encourage more countries to recognize and establish diplomatic relations with Kosovo, and to promote Kosovo's fullest

possible
engagement with international organizations. Kosovo has
embassies
in Ankara, Berlin, Bern, Brussels, London, Paris, Rome,
Tirana, Vienna,
and Washington and is working to establish more.

15. (SBU) Kosovo declared independence from Serbia on February
17, 2008.

The United States recognized Kosovo and established
diplomatic relations
the next day and was soon followed by several European
countries.

Currently, 57 countries see
www.state.sgov.gov/s/crs/index.cfm,
then click on Kosovo under GAZA Interagency Secretariat and
then click

on (SBU) Kosovo Recognitions as of April 7, 2009 you will
get a list, including all the G-7, and all of Kosovo,s
immediate neighbors

save Serbia have recognized Kosovo. However, because of
Russia's announced

intention to veto a Kosovo application so long as Serbia
opposes it,

UN membership is not likely in the near future. NATO and the
EU do not

have consensus positions regarding Kosovo recognition; 22 of

STATE 00039345 002 OF 002

27 EU member
states and 24 of 28 NATO members have recognized Kosovo. The
IMF is
currently voting to determine whether Kosovo will be
admitted. The World
Bank will likely begin a similar voting process later this
month.

16. (SBU) UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon noted in his last
three reports to
the UN Security Council(the most recent report was discussed
in the UNSC on
March 23)that he has ordered the UN Mission in
Kosovo(UNMIK)to downsize
following entry into force last June of Kosovo's constitution
and has
welcomed the EU's enhanced role in Kosovo,s rule of law
sector. With over
\$1.9 billion of pledged donor assistance, Kosovo is
strengthening its
institutions, nurturing its economy, and conducting its own
foreign affairs.
It is imperative for Kosovo,s sustainability that it be
given every feasible
opportunity to integrate with and cooperate with multilateral
institutions.

POINT OF CONTACT

17. (U) Please contact Kosovo Desk Officer Seiji Shiratori at
202-647-7729

or Kosovo Status Coordinator Paul Pfeuffer at 202-647-2452
for additional

information. Please be sure to slug responses for IO/UNP
John Mariz and USUN.

CLINTON